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**BOROUGH OF TORQUAY**

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# **REPORT**

**OF THE**

# **Medical Officer of Health**

**for 1958**





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ST. MARYCHURCH TOWN HALL,

TORQUAY.

Tel. Torquay  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 88204 \\ 88205 \end{array} \right.$ 

*To the Worshipful the Mayor and to the Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Torquay.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1958, which is detailed in form and sequence in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health.

The year was a very healthy one for the residents of Torquay, the incidence of infectious disease being very low, and there being a reduction in the Death Rate. There were only 114 cases of infectious disease notified apart from Tuberculosis. It may be noted, however, that although only 5 cases of pneumonia were notified, no less than 22 persons died from this disease, so that the picture presented by the number of notified cases of infectious disease is not entirely accurate. The number of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis shows a very slight increase over last year's when these were the lowest number of cases ever recorded. When we consider the efficiency of modern methods of diagnosis and case finding such as the Mass Miniature Radiography Service, and the tuberculin testing of school children, the fact that they are able to discover so few cases makes one feel fairly satisfied with the position. Nevertheless, there must still be in the community quite a number of persons suffering from tuberculosis whom the X-Ray Units never see because they do not come forward for voluntary examination, and these people continue to be a source of infection and danger to their relatives, friends and indeed the community as a whole. With the wonderful advances which have been made in the treatment of tuberculosis, a complete cure is normally to be expected, and one feels that if only these people who do not attend for X-Ray through fear of what might be found were to realise that a regular chest X-Ray may be the means of saving their own life and the lives and health of their families then we would really come near to eradicating this community disease.

With regard to the vital statistics, there was an increase in the birth rate from 10.92 to 11.89 per 1,000 population, but this is still low even when adjusted to allow for the age and sex distribution of the population, and when compared with the national birth rate. The adjusted rate for Torquay was 13.08 per thousand, while the national birth rate in 1958 was 16.64. There was a reduction in the number of deaths and consequently a reduction in the death rate, which fell slightly from 16.65 per 1,000 population to 15.94. This appears to be very high when compared with the national death rate



of 11.7 per 1,000, but when the rate is adjusted to allow a more accurate comparison the Torquay rate becomes 11.32 which is slightly less than that for England and Wales.

Of the new statutes which were passed during the year two were of particular significance to this Department. These were the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, and the Local Government Act, 1958. The former Act alters the powers of Local Authorities to bring in and retain restrictions on the use of private slaughterhouses, and it also brought in the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations which deal with the hygienic construction, layout and equipment of slaughterhouses, and the practices to be observed therein. The standards laid down are unfortunately not very high, and it is my opinion that a very much higher standard is desirable. The present public slaughterhouse in Torquay is badly situated and does not even come up to the minimum standards laid down in the Regulations. To bring it up to a desirable standard the sum of £9,000 would require to be spent on it as a rough estimate. I do not feel that the expenditure of this amount of money would be an economic proposition and it would be in the interests of public health and of the Borough generally, if this abattoir was moved from this site or alternative arrangements made elsewhere.

The Local Government Act, 1958, is of importance to the Corporation not only for its financial provisions, but for the fact that it provides for the delegation of Health, Welfare and Education functions from County Councils to Local Authorities with a population of 60,000 as of right and to Authorities with a smaller population where a case can be made for it. These services were administered efficiently by the Corporation prior to 1948 in the case of the first two, and prior to 1946 in the case of Education. The Health Services which can be delegated are Care of Mothers and Young Children, Distribution of Welfare Foods, Midwifery, Health Visiting, Home Nursing, Immunisation and Vaccination, Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care, Home Helps, Mental Health Services. The Corporation has made application for the grant of these delegated functions but no decision has so far been received.

During the year we were disturbed about the conditions under which people were living in houses converted into flatlets. Many of the larger, older houses in the Borough had been converted into flatlets in which families were living in overcrowded and insanitary conditions with a complete lack of the facilities which we nowadays expect in making a happy home. Mr. Partridge, the Chief Public Health Inspector, has drawn up a set of standards to be followed by persons owning such houses, and I am pleased to report that an improvement has been made in the worst of these and we hope to continue to obtain better living conditions for the families occupying these premises.

There have been some important staff changes during the year in that two officers of many years' service have reached retiring age and their places taken by newcomers to Torquay. Mr. G. J. Loveless was appointed as District Sanitary Inspector in 1921, and promoted Chief Sanitary Inspector in 1946. During this long and distinguished career he served the Corporation conscientiously and devotedly, and in a most modest and unassuming manner. Those of us who worked with him will wish him a long and happy retirement, which he, without doubt, has earned. We also extend similar wishes to Mr. A. Thompson, who served the Corporation as District Sanitary Inspector from 1925. His district covered the central part of the town where there were many problems, and he carried out his duties vigorously and well. Mr. Loveless was succeeded by Mr. D. Partridge who came to us from Buxton, and Mr. Thompson by Mr. F. Holloway from Middlesbrough, and I hope they will have as long and as happy an association with the Borough as did their predecessors.

In conclusion I should like to express my appreciation of the able work and loyal support of all the staff in the Department, and my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the support and consideration which I have received from them.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

D. K. MACTAGGART,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## STAFF

### (a) Medical

*Medical Officer of Health  
(and Assistant County Medical Officer):*

D. K. MacTAGGART

M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

### (b) Sanitary

*Chief Public Health Inspector:*

G. J. LOVELESS, T.D., F.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., Cert. Insp. Meat and Food R.S.I.  
(Retired 16th January, 1958)

D. PARTRIDGE, A.R.S.H., C.S.I.B., Cert. Insp. Meat and Food R.S.I.  
(Commenced 20th January, 1958)

*District Public Health Inspectors:*

A. THOMPSON, C.R.S.I.  
(Retired 17th October, 1958)

J. F. H. SMITH, C.R.S.I., Cert. Insp. Meat and Food R.S.I., Dip. R.I.P.H.H.,  
Cert. Lab. Technique, Exeter.

E. V. ROBERTS, C.R.S.I., Cert. Insp. Meat and Food R.S.I.

B. A. F. IRWIN, C.S.I.B., Cert. Insp. Meat and Food R.S.I.

F. HOLLOWAY, C.S.I.B., Cert. Insp. Meat and Food R.S.I.  
(Commenced 15th October, 1958)

### (c) Other

*Public Analyst :*

\*T. TICKLE, B.Sc., F.I.C.

*Chief Clerk :*

S. E. R. AUTHERS

*Clerks :*

E. C. DOBLE

B. L. BROWN

*Manager of Abattoir :*

G. A. AYRES.

*Attendant at Abattoir :*

H. WRIGHT

*Rodent Operatives :*

W. LEE.

J. BORLACE.

*Disinfectors and Van Driver :*

R. FORD

\* Part Time



## SECTION A

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,244
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-1958	...	...	...	...	...	...	50,510
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1958) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,180
Rateable Value (end of 1958)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£982,356
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (end of 1958)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£3,919

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS

*including the chief industries carried on in the Area and the extent of Unemployment.*

Torquay is a busy holiday resort as well as a residential town; and, with the large number of persons now receiving holidays with pay, the summer season is becoming increasingly busy. This has an effect on unemployment which has always shown a seasonal variation, and before the war ranged from a minimum of about 800 to a maximum of 1,800.

At the end of the war the number of unemployed was the lowest recorded with a total of 148 in 1945; since then the number has risen gradually each year to reach a maximum of 1,405 in 1953, after which there has been a decline to 1,291 in 1954, 1,006 in 1955 and 989 in 1956; since then there has been a slight increase, the figures being 1,198 in 1957 and 1,113 in 1958.

The following shows the extent of unemployment in 1958:

MAXIMUM No. UNEMPLOYED						
		<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
February, 1958	..	724	340	27	22	1,113
MINIMUM No. UNEMPLOYED						
July, 1958	.. ..	239	23	5	7	274

Seaside resorts have a difficult problem in their unemployment, which will not be solved unless there is other seasonal work for the winter only, to absorb the summer employees rendered redundant after the holiday season.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1958

*which relate to the net Births and Deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers as furnished by the Registrar-General.*

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	..	..	..	11.89
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	..	..	..	21.17
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	..	..	..	15.94
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion (Heading 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List:				
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	..	..	..	0.00
Death rate of infants under one year of age:				
All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	24.95
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	22.76
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	66.66
Death rate of infants under 4 weeks of age, per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	16.63
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	159
„ Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	0
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	0
„ Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	..	..	1

*Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required special comment.*

During the year there has been nothing to report.

### *Population.*

The Registrar-General's estimate for the resident population at the middle of 1958 is 50,510, and this figure is used in calculating the appropriate statistical returns.

### *Births.*

The number of live births registered during the year, corrected for transfers, is 601, of which 307 were male and 294 female; there were 571 legitimate and 30 illegitimate births. There were 13 stillbirths, all legitimate.

The birth rate was 11.89 per 1,000 population, compared with 16.64 for England and Wales. The stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths was 21.17 compared with 21.6 for England and Wales.

The proportion of illegitimate to total births in Torquay (after correction for transfers) was 4.99 per cent in 1958; this figure had risen progressively from 6.4 per cent in 1939 to a maximum of 17.7 per cent in 1945, subsequently falling, and in 1950 returning, to the pre-war level.

A comparability factor, to make adjustment for the age and sex distribution of the town, has this year been prepared by the Registrar-General for correcting the birth rate; the factor is 1.10 and, after multiplying the crude rate by this, a corrected birth rate of 13.08 is obtained.

TABLE A

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1958						Males	Females
All Causes ... ..						385	420
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	4	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	10	8
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	16	3
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	17
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	10
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	51	43
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	1	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	5
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	55	81
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	79	51
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	14	12
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	48	75
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	16	29
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	3
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	14	8
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	17	9
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	7	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	4	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	7	4
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	11	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	3	5
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	24	36
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	—	—
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	2	10
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	4
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	1
Deaths of Infants { Total ... ..						8	7
under 1 year { Legitimate ... ..						7	6
{ Illegitimate ... ..						1	1
Deaths of Infants { Total ... ..						5	5
under 4 weeks { Legitimate ... ..						4	4
{ Illegitimate ... ..						1	1
Stillbirths { Total ... ..						5	8
{ Legitimate ... ..						5	8
{ Illegitimate ... ..						—	—



**TABLE B**  
**CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1958 (Per Local Registrar)**

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District											
	All ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 55	55 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and over
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	5	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	3	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	95	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	9	14	20	48
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
16. Diabetes	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	136	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	34	94
18. Coronary disease, angina	131	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	22	43	58
19. Hypertension with heart disease	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	9	15
20. Other heart disease	120	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	8	21	87
21. Other circulatory disease	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	28
22. Influenza	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
23. Pneumonia	23	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	17
24. Bronchitis	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	18
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	2	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital Malformations	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	63	4	2	-	-	-	-	2	6	8	11	29
33. Motor vehicle accidents	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34. All other accidents	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	10
35. Suicide	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	805	10	5	-	-	-	4	11	41	99	188	447



### *Marriages.*

The marriage rate was 5.26 per 1,000 population compared with 5.6 in 1957, 5.1 in 1956, 5.4 in 1955 and 4.9 in 1954; the rate for England and Wales in 1958 was 15.0 per 1,000 population.

### *Deaths.*

The number of deaths registered during the year, corrected for transfers, is 805, of which 385 were males and 420 were females.

The crude death rate was 15.94 per 1,000 population compared with 16.53 in 1957; the death rate in 1958 for England and Wales was 11.7.

In order to make adjustment for the age and sex distribution of Torquay, with its greater proportion of older people, the Registrar-General supplies an area comparability factor (A.C.F.) with which to multiply the crude death rate and so obtain an adjusted death rate. The A.C.F. for Torquay is 0.71, and the adjusted death rate is therefore 11.32.

The chief causes of death were as usual for Torquay: Heart Disease, 279; Cancer, 160; and Vascular lesions of the nervous system, 136; which between them are responsible for almost two-thirds of the total deaths. These proportional death rates are given in greater detail in Table C.

The causes of death are given in the accompanying Table A, supplied by the Registrar-General.

Table B is also included showing the age distribution of total deaths, together with the deaths from the different causes: this table is compiled from the returns of the Local Registrar, and differs slightly from the list supplied by the Registrar-General who frequently obtains subsequent further information to assist in the more accurate classification.

**TABLE C**  
PROPORTION OF DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES, 1958

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>% of Total Deaths</i>
Heart Disease .. .. .	279	34.65
Cancer .. .. .	160	19.87
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System ..	136	16.90
Respiratory Diseases .. .. .	60	7.44
Circulatory Diseases .. .. .	45	5.60
Violence (including suicides) .. .. .	18	2.24
Tuberculosis .. .. .	4	0.50
All other Causes .. .. .	103	12.80
	805	100%

### *Infant Mortality.*

During the year 15 infants died in the first year of life, giving an infant mortality rate of 24.95 per 1,000 live births, compared with a rate of 22.5 for England and Wales; the death rate for legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births was 22.76 and the death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births was 66.66. The infant mortality rate in Torquay tends to fluctuate owing to the comparatively small numbers upon which it is calculated; thus the figures for the preceding 7 years, 1951–57, inclusive, were: 26, 31, 16, 13, 13, 11 and 20.

Of the 15 infants, 10 died in their first 4 weeks of life, giving a neo-natal mortality rate of 16.63 per 1,000 live births compared with a rate of 16.2 for England and Wales. The perinatal mortality rate was 30.9, that for England and Wales being 35.1.

The following table (Table D) gives the details of the total deaths registered under 1 year:

**TABLE D**

<i>Cause of death</i>	<i>Age in weeks</i>					<i>Age in months</i>					<i>Total all infant deaths</i>
	<i>Under 1 week</i>	<i>1 to 2</i>	<i>2 to 3</i>	<i>3 to 4</i>	<i>Total under 4 wks.</i>	<i>1 to 3</i>	<i>3 to 6</i>	<i>6 to 9</i>	<i>9 to 12</i>	<i>Total 1–12 mths.</i>	
Pneumonia .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	2
Prematurity .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations	2	2	1	—	5	1	—	—	—	1	6
Infection .. ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	2
Haemolytic Disease ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Asthma .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Atelectasis .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Gastro-Enteritis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
TOTALS .. ..	6	2	2	—	10	2	1	1	1	5	15

### *Maternal Mortality.*

There was no maternal death during the year; the number of maternal deaths in each of the preceding years 1951–57, inclusive, was 0. 0. 1. 0. 0. 1. 0.

## SECTION B

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. (i) *Full particulars of the Public Health Officers of the Authority, including their duties, are incorporated in the beginning of the Report.*

Mr. G. J. Loveless, who was appointed a District Sanitary Inspector in 1921, and Chief Sanitary Inspector in 1946, retired on 16th January, 1958. He was succeeded as Chief Public Health Inspector by Mr. D. Partridge, who took up his duties on 20th January, 1958.

Mr. A. Thompson who had been a District Sanitary Inspector with the Corporation since 1925 retired on 17th October, 1958. Mr. F. Holloway was appointed to take his place and took up duties on 15th October.

- (ii) *Committees.*

The list of Committees which are concerned with matters of Public Health are:

Public Health Committee  
Housing Committee

### 2. *Nursing Homes.*

There were three changes in registration during the year, one nursing home closing and two homes being registered for the first time, and the following is a summary of the Nursing Homes at the end of December:

	<i>No. of Homes</i>	<i>Number of beds provided for</i>		
		<i>Maternity</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Homes first registered during the year .. .. .	2	—	18	18
Homes whose registrations were withdrawn during the year ..	1	—	12	12
Homes on the register at the end of the year .. .. .	9	5	91	96

### 3. *National Assistance Act, 1948, Sec. 47.*

*If action has been taken under this Section, a brief note of the circumstances of each case is requested. The note should include information as to the reason for the Council's action, period named in the Order of the Court, the type of accommodation to which the person was removed, the ultimate result of the Council's action and any other information on the case it is considered might be of interest.*



This Section relates to the removal to suitable premises of persons who:

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions; and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves *and* are not receiving from other persons proper care or attention;

and makes the Councils of County Boroughs and County Districts the authorities for dealing with such cases.

To effect the removal the Medical Officer of Health for the district must certify in writing to the Council that he is satisfied, after thorough enquiry and consideration, that in the interest of any such person, or for preventing injury to health, or serious nuisance to other persons, it is necessary to remove any such person from the premises in which he is residing; and the local authority may then apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an Order under the Section. Before an application can be made, seven clear days' notice must be given to the person concerned or to some person in charge of him, and to the persons managing the premises to which the removal is sought to be made.

When the application is made, it must be supported by all evidence of the allegations in the certificate; and the Court, if satisfied, may order the removal of the persons concerned, by such officer of the local authority as may be specified, to a suitable hospital and may authorise the detention of the person concerned for a period not exceeding three months, subject to extension on further application. The person concerned by the Order, or any persons on his behalf, may apply to the Court at the expiration of six weeks from the making of the Order for its revocation.

On 1st September, 1951, an Amending Act came into force giving Local Authorities powers to deal expeditiously with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. Where the Medical Officer of Health and another registered Medical Practitioner certify, in the case of a person to whom Section 47 of the 1948 Act applies, an application that he should be removed without delay may be made to the appropriate Court or to a single Justice, without giving the seven clear days' notice required by the main Act. The application may be made by the Local Authority, or by the Medical Officer of Health where the Authority authorises him to make application, in cases to which the Amending Act applies. The Order is made for a period not exceeding three weeks, and any further application extending this period has to be in accordance with the main provisions of the 1948 Act.

Your Medical Officer is authorised to make application in any case to which the Amending Act applies.



During the year, seven cases were investigated, and, of these, no action was considered necessary in respect of two; two eventually consented to enter Hospital voluntarily, and orders were obtained for the other three.

Details of the three cases were as follows:

The first was a woman of 80 who lived on her own in a large house in the Borough along with some twenty cats. The house was in an incredibly filthy condition and over ten lorry loads of rubbish and filth were removed to the refuse tip. The woman herself was taken to Newton Abbot Hospital where she died nine months later.

The second case was a man of 85 living on his own who was suffering from Broncho-Pneumonia. He was removed to Newton Abbot Hospital where he died nine days later.

The third was a woman of 80 living in a filthy and verminous condition and in a very poor state of health. She died in Hospital two weeks after admission.

#### 4. *National Assistance Act, 1948, Sec. 50.*

Under Section 50 of this Act it is the duty of the Local Authority to cause to be buried or cremated the body of any person who has died or been found dead in the area, in any case where it appears that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been made or are being made.

The Authority may receive from the estate, if any, of the deceased person or from any person who for the purposes of this Act was liable to maintain the deceased person immediately before his death, expenses incurred and not reimbursed under the National Insurance Act.

During the year, 5 burials were carried out under this section, compared with 8 in 1957, 14 in 1956, 8 in 1955, 6 in 1954, 9 in 1953, and 7 in 1952.

## SECTION C

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA****1. Water.**

In this report full details are given in connexion with the water supply, and the Borough Water Engineer, Mr. W. F. White, M.I.W.E., has kindly supplied the following information:

(i) *Whether the water supply has been satisfactory (a) in quality, (b) in quantity.*

(a) Throughout the year the quality of the water supplied has been maintained at its usual high standard, being pure and wholesome in character and suitable in every way for public supply purposes.

(b) There has been an ample quantity of water available for all purposes from the Corporation's four impounding reservoirs on Dartmoor, which have a storage capacity of 848 million gallons, or approximately six months' supply at the present rate of consumption. During the summer season there was an unusually large number of visitors which considerably increased the population within the area of supply and this, in conjunction with the increasing demand for water for domestic, industrial and agricultural use, resulted in the highest summer consumption on record. During the six summer months, April to September, the consumption averaged 4,767,000 gallons per day, increasing during the month of August to an average of 5,382,000 gallons per day, but little difficulty was experienced in meeting this exceptional high summer demand, and no restrictions whatsoever were imposed on the use of water.

(ii) *Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water and, where treatment is installed, of the water going into supply; if so, how many and the results obtained; the results of any chemical analyses.*

Both chemical and bacteriological examinations have been made of the raw and treated water. The whole of the supply is treated, this comprising coagulation with Sulphate of Alumina and Soda Ash, filtration through pressure filters, addition of lime water to neutralise the acidity and increase the bicarbonate alkalinity, and finally sterilisation by the application of gaseous chlorine.

The raw water is normally acid with a pH value varying from 6.5 to 6.9; after treatment the value is raised to about 9.0, which results in the consumers receiving a water on the alkaline side of neutrality.

The application of all chemicals is automatically controlled in proportion to the quantity of water conveyed by the trunk mains from the filtration works to the service reservoirs. In the case of the chlorine, the dose is normally about one part per million, but it is adjusted so as to maintain a residuum in the water passing into distribution from the service reservoirs.

Several chemical and bacteriological analyses have been made of the raw and finally treated water. The following are typical examples of the reports received.

#### RAW WATER

A—Chemical and Bacteriological, Fernworthy Reservoir—Taken 20.5.58.

B—Chemical and Bacteriological, Raw Water Main feeding Pressure Filters at Tottiford—Taken 20.5.58.

#### FILTERED WATER

C—Chemical and Bacteriological, Filtered Water Main from Pressure Filters—With coagulation but prior to alkalisation with lime and sterilisation with gaseous chlorine—Taken 20.5.58.

#### FULLY TREATED WATER

D—Chemical and Bacteriological—Trunk Mains at Tottiford—Taken 20.5.58.

E—Chemical and Bacteriological—Great Hill Service Reservoir—Taken 20.5.58.

F—Chemical and Bacteriological—Warberry Service Reservoir—Taken 20.5.58.

G—Chemical and Bacteriological—Chapel Hill Service Reservoir—Taken 8.12.58.



REPORTS BY THE COUNTIES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES  
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A. SAMPLE 20.5.58.

Fernworthy Reservoir—Raw Water Inlet at Trenchford Reservoir—Fernworthy Catchment

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

*Appearance*: Slight opalescence with a flocculent deposit.

*Microscopical examination*: Mineral matter and organic debris; diatoms, protozoa and chlorophyceae.

Colour (filtered) .. ..	21	Turbidity .. ..	Less than 3
pH .. ..	6.8	Odour .. ..	Nil
Electric Conductivity ..	48	Free Carbon Dioxide ..	2
Chlorine present as Chloride	9	Dissolved Solids dried at	
Hardness: Total .. ..	8	180°C. .. ..	36
Nitrate Nitrogen .. ..	0.0	Alkalinity as Calcium Car-	
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ..	0.046	bonate .. ..	5
Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	0.063	Carbonate .. 5 Non-carbonate	3
Metals: Iron .. ..	0.18	Nitrite Nitrogen .. ..	Absent
Other Metals .. Absent		Oxygen absorbed .. ..	1.8
		Residual Chlorine .. ..	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	{	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 20°— 22°C.
		16 per ml.	18 per ml.	90 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aero- genes Reaction ..		<i>Present in</i> *1 ml.	<i>Absent from</i> 0.1 ml.	<i>Probable Number</i> 80 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I) ..		10 ml.	0.1 ml.	25 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction		— ml.	100 ml.	
— Intermediate (Type I).				
* Aerogenes (Type I).				

This sample shows only slight opalescence and carries only a trace of matter in suspension. The water is just on the acid side of neutrality, very soft in character, has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution and it is free from metals apart from minute trace of iron. Colour is noticeable, but not marked, organic quality is satisfactory and bacterial impurity indicative of contamination by matters of excremental origin is limited to a very moderate number of coliform organisms, including bact. coli.



## B. SAMPLE 20.5.58.

Raw water main feeding pressure filters at Tottiford, near Bovey Tracey, Devon. Source: Tottiford and Fernworthy Catchments.

## CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

*Appearance:* Faint opalescence with a slight deposit.

*Microscopical examination:* Mineral matter and organic debris; diatoms and chlorophyceae.

Colour .. .. .	11	Turbidity .. .	Less than 3
pH .. .. .	6.9	Odour .. .. .	Nil
Electric Conductivity ..	74	Free Carbon Dioxide ..	6
Chlorine present as Chloride	13	Dissolved Solids dried at	
Hardness: Total ..	17	180°C. .. .. .	52
Nitrate Nitrogen .. ..	0.8	Alkalinity as Calcium Car-	
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ..	0.000	bonate .. .. .	5
Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	0.072	Carbonate .. 5 Non-Carbonate	12
Metals: Iron .. ..	0.08	Nitrite Nitrogen ..	Less than 0.01
Other Metals ..	Absent	Oxygen Absorbed ..	1.5
		Residual Chlorine ..	—

## BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	{ 1 day at 37°C. 8 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 9 per ml.	3 days at 20°– 22°C. 48 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction ..	<i>Present in</i> 100 ml.	<i>Absent from</i> 50 ml.	<i>Probable Number</i> 1 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I) ..	100 ml.	50 ml.	1 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction ..	— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample shows only slight opalescence and carries only a trace of matter in suspension. The water is just on the acid side of neutrality, very soft in character, has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution and it is free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. It is practically free from colour and of very satisfactory organic and bacterial quality for this raw water.

## C. SAMPLE 20.5.58.

Filtered water main from pressure filters at Tottiford (with coagulation but prior to alkalisation with lime and sterilization with gaseous chlorine). Source: Fernworthy and Tottiford Catchments.

## CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

*Appearance:* Clear and bright.

Colour .. .. .	Nil	Turbidity .. .. .	Nil
pH .. .. .	6.5	Odour .. .. .	Nil
Electric Conductivity ..	75	Carbon Dioxide .. .. .	2
Chlorine present as Chloride	12	Free Solids dried at 180°C.	50
Hardness: Total ..	16	Alkalinity as Calcium Car-	
Nitrate Nitrogen .. ..	0.8	bonate .. .. .	3
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ..	0.000	Carbonate .. 3 Non-Carbonate	13
Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	0.038	Nitrite Nitrogen ..	Absent
Metals: Iron ..	Less than 0.03	Oxygen Absorbed ..	0.50
Aluminium ..	0.04	Residual Chlorine ..	Absent
Other Metals ..	Absent		

## BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	{ 1 day at 37 C. 0 per ml.	2 days at 37 C. 1 per ml.	3 days at 20°– 22°C. 6 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aero- genes Reaction ..	<i>Present in</i> — ml.	<i>Absent from</i> 100 ml.	<i>Probable Number</i> 0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I) ..	— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction ..	— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, on the acid side of neutrality, and free from metals, apart from negligible traces of iron and aluminium. The water is very soft in character and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution. It is free from colour, of very satisfactory organic quality, and of the highest standards of bacterial purity. These results are indicative of an efficiently coagulated and filtered water.

## D. SAMPLE 20.5.58.

Trunk mains at Tottiford. Fully treated water—coagulated, filtered, hardened and chlorinated. Source: Fernworthy and Tottiford Catchments.

## CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

*Appearance:* Bright with a few particles.

Colour .. .. .	Nil	Turbidity .. .. .	Less than 3
pH .. .. .	8.7	Odour .. .. .	Slight Chloride
Electric Conductivity ..	85	Free Carbon Dioxide ..	Absent
Chlorine present as Chloride	13	Dissolved Solids dried at	
Hardness: Total ..	22	180°C. .. .. .	56
Nitrate Nitrogen .. ..	1.0	Alkalinity as Calcium Car-	
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ..	0.000	bonate .. .. .	9
Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	0.026	Carbonate .. 9 Non-Carbonate	13
Metals: Iron .. Less than	0.03	Nitrite Nitrogen .. ..	Absent
Aluminium ..	0.06	Oxygen Absorbed ..	0.04
Other Metals ..	Absent	Residual Chlorine ..	0.06

## BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	{ 1 day at 37°C. 0 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 0 per ml.	3 days at 20°– 22°C. 1 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aero- genes Reaction ..	<i>Present in</i> — ml.	<i>Absent from</i> 100 ml.	<i>Probable Number</i> 0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I) ..	— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction ..	— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, distinctly but not excessively alkaline in reaction, and free from metals, apart from negligible traces of iron and aluminium. The water is soft in character and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution. It is free from colour, of very satisfactory organic quality, and of the highest standard of bacterial purity. These results are indicative of an efficiently treated water, pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for public supply purposes.



## E. SAMPLE 20.5.58.

Great Hill Service Reservoir, Torquay. Fully treated water—coagulated, filtered, hardened and chlorinated. Source: Tottiford and Fernworthy Watersheds.

## CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

*Appearance:* Bright with a few particles.

Colour	.. .. .	Nil	Turbidity	..	Less than 3
pH	.. .. .	8.7	Odour	.. .. .	Nil
Electric Conductivity	..	84	Free Carbon Dioxide	..	Absent
Chlorine present as Chloride		13	Total Solids	.. ..	56
Hardness: Total	..	22	Alkalinity as Calcium Car-		
Nitrate Nitrogen	.. ..	0.86	bonate	.. .. .	8
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	..	0.006	Carbonate	.. 8	Non-Carbonate 14
Albuminoid Nitrogen	..	0.036	Nitrite Nitrogen	.. ..	Absent
Metals: Iron	.. ..	0.03	Oxygen Absorbed	..	0.50
Aluminium	..	0.08	Residual Chlorine	..	Absent
Other Metals	..	Absent			

## BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	{ 1 day at 37°C. 1 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 1 per ml.	3 days at 20°– 22°C. 2 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aero- genes Reaction	<i>Present in</i> — ml.	<i>Absent from</i> 100 ml.	<i>Probable Number</i> 0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I)	— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, distinctly but not excessively alkaline in reaction, and free from metals, apart from negligible traces of iron and aluminium. The water is soft in character, and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution. It is free from colour, of very satisfactory organic quality, and of the highest standard of bacterial purity. These results are indicative of an efficiently treated water, pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for public supply purposes.

## F. SAMPLE 20.5.58.

Warberry Service Reservoir, Torquay—Fully treated water—coagulated, filtered, hardened and chlorinated. Source: Tottiford and Fernworthy Watersheds.

## CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

*Appearance:* Bright with a few particles.

Colour	.. .. .	Nil	Turbidity		Less than 3
pH	.. .. .	8.5	Odour	.. .. .	Nil
Electric Conductivity	..	82	Free Carbon Dioxide	..	Absent
Chlorine present as Chloride		13	Dissolved Solids dried at		
Hardness: Total	..	22	180°C.	.. .. .	55
Nitrate Nitrogen	.. ..	0.75	Alkalinity as Calcium Car-		
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	..	0.000	bonate	.. .. .	8
Albuminoid Nitrogen	..	0.033	Carbonate	.. 8	Non-Carbonate 14
Metals: Iron	.. ..	0.18	Nitrite Nitrogen	.. ..	Absent
Aluminium	..	0.09	Oxygen Absorbed	..	0.60
Other Metals	..	Absent	Residual Chlorine	..	Absent

## BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	{ 1 day at 37°C. 2 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 3 per ml.	3 days at 20°– 22°C. 19 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aero- genes Reaction ..	<i>Present in</i> — ml.	<i>Absent from</i> 100 ml.	<i>Probable Number</i> 0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I) ..	— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction ..	— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, distinctly but not excessively alkaline in reaction, and free from metals, apart from negligible traces of iron and aluminium. The water is soft in character, and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution. It is free from colour, of very satisfactory organic quality, and of the highest standard of bacterial purity. These results are indicative of an efficiently treated water, pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for public supply purposes.

## G. SAMPLE 8.12.58.

Chapel Hill Service Reservoir, Torquay. Full treated water—coagulated, filtered, hardened and chlorinated. Source: Tottiford and Fernworthy Watersheds.

## CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

*Appearance:* Bright with a few particles.

Colour .. .. .	Nil	Turbidity .. .. .	Less than 3
pH .. .. .	8.6	Odour .. .. .	Nil
Electric Conductivity ..	88	Free Carbon Dioxide ..	Absent
Chlorine present as Chloride	15	Total Solids .. .. .	58
Hardness: Total ..	25	Alkalinity as Calcium Car-	
Nitrate Nitrogen .. ..	0.8	bonate .. .. .	14
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ..	0.005	Carbonate .. 14 Non-Carbonate	11
Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	0.043	Nitrite Nitrogen .. ..	Absent
Metals: Iron .. .. .	0.10	Oxygen Absorbed .. ..	0.70
Aluminium .. .. .	0.04	Residual Chlorine .. ..	0.04
Other Metals .. .. .	Absent		

## BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	{ 1 day at 37°C. 0 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 0 per ml.	3 days at 20°– 22°C. 0 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aero- genes Reaction ..	<i>Present in</i> — ml.	<i>Absent from</i> 100 ml.	<i>Probable Number</i> 0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I) ..	— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction ..	— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, slightly alkaline in reaction, and free from metals, apart from negligible traces of iron and aluminium. The water is soft in character, and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents. It is free from noticeable colour, of very satisfactory organic quality, and of the highest standard of bacterial purity. These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

(Signed) GORDON MILES,  
for The Counties Public Health Laboratories.



Samples are also taken regularly from a variety of sources within the Borough, such as storage reservoirs, drinking fountains, taps in private houses, dairies, schools, etc.; 79 such samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, and in 78 the results were good, viz.:

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“Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml.—nil. This sample is satisfactory bacteriologically.”

In the remaining sample the probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. was 2.

(iii) *Where the waters are liable to have plumbo-solvent action the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken and the number and result of analyses.*

The analyses show negligible traces of iron and aluminium, all other metals being absent.

The pH is maintained at the level mentioned previously to avoid action on lead.

(iv) *Action in respect of any form of contamination.*

No special action has been required.

(v) *Particulars of the proportion of dwelling-houses and the proportion of the population supply from public water mains (a) direct to the houses, (b) by means of standpipes.*

(a) The proportion of dwelling-houses with a supply from public water mains direct to the houses is 98.8 per cent and the proportion of the population thus supplied is 98.5 per cent.

(b) The proportion of dwelling-houses supplied by means of standpipes is 1.2 per cent, the proportion of the population thus supplied being 1.5 per cent.

(vi) *Mineral Spring.*

3 samples taken from the mineral spring in Meadfoot Sea Road were submitted for bacteriological examination. (This spring is at present used to supply a public drinking fountain.) All samples gave satisfactory results, viz.: probable number of Coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. – nil.

(vii) *Drainage and Sewerage.*

The Borough Engineer, Mr. F. T. W. Nixon, M.C., A.M.I.C.E., M.I.MUN.E., A.M.T.P.I., has kindly given me the following details in connection with drainage, sewerage and public cleansing:—

During the year, new sewers have been laid in Salisbury Avenue and Hele Road, and schemes have been prepared for the Temperance Street relief sewer and sewers at Babbacombe Beach, Moor Lane, Swedwell Lane, Happaway Road and St. Marychurch areas.

(viii) *Closet Accommodation.*

No cases of conversion are known during the year under review.

(ix) *Public Cleansing.*

There has been an increase in collection and disposal due to new private housing development. Disposal is carried out by controlled tipping.

(x) *Salvage.*

The collection and recovery of salvable material continue, and the following are the details of the amounts of salvage recovered:

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Paper, cardboard, books, etc...	600	1	2	—
Rolled Aluminium .. ..		12	—	7
Cast Aluminium .. ..		19	—	12
Rolled Zinc .. ..	1	14	—	24
Rags .. ..	4	17	—	—
Carpet .. ..	1	18	—	—
Woollens .. ..		9	1	13
Felt .. ..		2	3	23
Scrap Iron .. ..	35	5	2	—
Copper, clean .. ..		7	—	19
Lead Scrap .. ..		13	3	—
Brass .. ..		8	2	15
Brass and Copper .. ..			1	—
Burnt Copper Wire .. ..		1	3	20
White Metal .. ..				26
Bottles, Jars, etc. .. ..	..	..	..	138 Dozen
Oil .. ..	..	..	..	120 Gallons

(xi) *Rivers and Streams.*

*Any action taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams in the area.*

There are no rivers in the area, but several small streams; no complaints have been received during the year concerning pollution. Two small streams, one rising near the railway at Lowes Bridge and the other at Watcombe, are not subject to pollution other than that from surface road washings.

## 2. *Sanitary Inspection of the Area.*

The inspection of all districts in the Borough has been very efficiently carried out during the year under your Chief Public Health Inspector, who gives these details:

The organisation of the work remains unchanged, each of the four Inspectors being responsible for a District of the Borough, while the duties of meat inspection at the Abattoir are shared by three in rotation and the fourth carries out the routine inspection of fish at the Harbour.

The co-operation and work of the individual inspectors have been excellent; and the high standard, in all the wide range of duties, reflects the greatest credit on their diligence and ability.

The following inspections were carried out:

### *Dwellinghouses*

New Houses inspected	..	..	..	179
Habitation Certificates signed	..	..	..	130
Council House applications—visits	..	..	..	52
Council Houses inspected	..	..	..	75

Work done in consequence of service of notices:

Roofs repaired	..	..	25 renewed	..	6
Chimneys repaired	..	..	1 renewed	..	1
Eaves gutters repaired	..	..	10 renewed	..	4
Rainwater Pipes repaired	..	..	10 renewed	..	12
External rendering repaired	..	..	9 renewed	..	2
Internal rendering repaired	..	..	11 renewed	..	6
Ceilings repaired	..	..	5 renewed	..	6
Windows repaired	..	..	15 renewed	..	14
Doors repaired	..	..	5 renewed	..	7
Floors repaired	..	..	13 renewed	..	9
Stoves and Fireplaces repaired	..	..	2 renewed	..	1
Stairs repaired	..	..	1 renewed	..	—
Handrails repaired	..	..	2 renewed	..	1
Yards cleansed	..	..	1 repaved	..	4
Rooms cleansed	..	..	..	..	6
Larders provided	..	..	..	..	5
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	17
Miscellaneous defects remedied	..	..	..	..	10
Drains and Sewers:					
Inspected	..	..	..	..	310
Tests applied	..	..	..	..	307
Drains repaired or relaid	..	..	..	..	110
Cesspools inspected, repaired, etc.	..	..	..	..	32
Revisits to drainage work	..	..	..	..	811



## Drainage work carried out:

Interceptors fixed	..	..	..	..	5
Fresh Air Inlets provided	..	..	..	..	9
Inspection Chambers built	..	..	..	..	70
Iron Frames and Covers provided	..	..	..	..	73
Soil and Vent Pipes fixed	..	..	..	..	39
Gullies provided	..	..	..	..	62
Waste Pipes provided	..	..	..	..	72
Waste Pipes trapped	..	..	..	..	75
Flushing Cisterns provided	..	..	..	..	38
Flushing Cisterns repaired	..	..	..	..	3
Flushing Cisterns renewed	..	..	..	..	9
Water Closets repaired	..	..	..	..	1
Water Closets renewed	..	..	..	..	25
Water Closets provided	..	..	..	..	46
Water Closet Apartments built	..	..	..	..	31
Water Closet Apartments ventilated	..	..	..	..	11
Water Closet Apartments cleansed	..	..	..	..	2
Lavatory Basins provided	..	..	..	..	48
Baths provided	..	..	..	..	21
Sinks provided	..	..	..	..	18
Choked Drains cleared	..	..	..	..	75

*General Public Health**Inspections*

Stables	..	..	..	..	..	5
Piggeries	..	..	..	..	..	21
Open Spaces—Nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	21
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	64
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	153
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	4
Atmospheric Pollution	..	..	..	..	..	68
Cinemas, Dance Halls	..	..	..	..	..	10
Marine Stores	..	..	..	..	..	10
Shops—Shops Act	..	..	..	..	..	15
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	14
Offices	..	..	..	..	..	3
Keeping of Animals	..	..	..	..	..	20
Offensive Accumulations removed	..	..	..	..	..	24
Noise nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	43
Fish Quay	..	..	..	..	..	84

*Miscellaneous*

Complaints investigated	..	..	..	..	288
Other Visits	..	..	..	..	791
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	29

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Co-operation has been maintained with H.M. Inspector of Factories in the exercise of the provisions of this Act; any contraventions of those sections under the control of H.M. Inspector which are noticed by your Inspectors are notified and this action is reciprocated.

The accompanying tables give the details of the inspections and the defects found—and of the Outworkers with the type of work undertaken.

## 1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

(Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
			Inspection (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	49	23	3	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	282	76	10	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority †(excluding outworkers' premises) ...	3	14	14	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ...		<b>345</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>—</b>

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	4	2	2	—	2	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	6	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	7	4	2	—	2	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	8	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—</b>						
(a) Insufficient ...	9	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	2	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	1	—	—	—	—
<b>Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>60</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>—</b>

## OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Section 110			Section 111		
		No. of out- workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some Premises (6)	Notices served (7)	Prosecu- tions (8)
Wearing apparel { Making, etc. ..	13	25	—	—	—	—	—
	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL .. ..	27	25	—	—	—	—	—

*Marine Store Dealers.*

Section 86 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, was adopted by the Local Authority in 1910, and since that date a register of Dealers in Old Metal and Marine Stores has been maintained, and regular inspections made of the premises. Six premises were on the register, and ten inspections were made.

*Smoke Abatement.*

In Torquay, little work has been undertaken under this section as there is no great concentration of industrial premises. However, atmospheric pollution is also caused by smoke from domestic chimneys and it is probable that the Department will have to investigate the extent of this in Torquay in the future. Sixty-eight observations have been made during the year in connexion with alleged nuisances but nothing has occurred which has justified any formal notices or action.

*Offensive Trades.*

There is one Tripe Boiler registered in the district. Eight inspections have been made and no complaint of any nuisance has been received.

*Diseases of Animals Act, 1951.*

No action was taken during the year under this Act.

*Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957.*

This Order, which came into force on the 1st June, 1957, prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste foods to certain animals or to poultry. Waste foods may, if not boiled for one hour, spread foot-and-mouth and other diseases. It also provided that, where a person



has collected from the premises of other persons onto his own premises any waste foods for feeding to animals or poultry, the waste foods shall not be used on or moved from his premises unless they have first been boiled for one hour in a plant licensed by the local authority. The Order also prohibits the carriage of animals, poultry, or feeding-stuffs in a vehicle that is carrying unboiled waste foods; and it requires the disinfection of vehicles and containers after each occasion in which they are used for the carriage of unboiled waste foods before they are again used for the carriage of animals, poultry or feeding-stuffs.

Eleven licences were issued by the Department for the operation of boiling plants.

### *Disinfections and Disinfestations.*

113 premises were treated during the year and 25 separate lots of bedding were steam disinfected. 46 wasp nests were also dealt with during the year.

### *Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.*

This Act requires (a) the registration of premises where filling materials are used in the manufacture of bedding, toys, carriages and other articles of upholstery (but this does not apply to reconditioning or remaking); and (b) the licensing of premises where rag flock is manufactured or stored for distribution to registered premises.

Registration should be accorded unconditionally if the premises are used for the purpose stated and the fee is paid; licences should be granted after an officer has inspected and reported on the premises, which are to have such appliances as may be necessary to enable clean rag flock to be manufactured, and licences can only be refused on limited grounds.

The necessary records have to be kept on registered and on licensed premises in the form prescribed; and there are powers of entry, of inspection and of sampling.

The sale of articles with unclean materials is forbidden, although this does not apply to second-hand articles; the word "clean" means compliance with standards laid down by regulations. And the filling materials are defined as rag flock, cotton flock, unwoven wool, jute, unwoven synthetic fibres, hair, feathers, down, kapok, coir fibre, seaweed, straw and such other materials as may be prescribed.

Regulations have so far been made on the type of records, the right to have samples tested, and the standards of cleanliness; the Minister has also prescribed certain analysts to whom samples must be sent for testing.

There is only one premises registered under the Act, and one other premises is licensed annually for the storage of rag flock.

### *Camping Sites.*

There are three licensed camping sites in the Borough used during the summer months only.

### *Shops Act, 1950.*

The duties, so far as public health is concerned, are connected with the maintenance of suitable and sufficient means of ventilation, of reasonable temperature, of lighting, of sanitary accommodation and of the provision of washing facilities.

During the year, routine inspections were carried out and 2 contraventions of these sections were discovered.

No exemptions were granted.

In addition to these arrangements for health and comfort, your Public Health Inspectors are also responsible for the administration of the other provisions of the Act; these are not really Public Health matters and include hours of closing, conditions of employment, provisions affecting young persons under 18, Sunday employment and Sunday trading.

The following Orders have been made by the Corporation:

The Shops Act, 1912 (Borough of Torquay) Weekly Half-Holiday Order, 1912.

The Babbacombe and St. Marychurch General Closing Hour (Extension) Order, 1953.

The Borough of Torquay Half-Holiday Suspension Order, 1957.

Copies of a summary of the various enactments have been distributed on the visit of your Public Health Inspectors, and copies of a schedule have also been distributed showing the provisions of the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938; these are especially important for hotels and places of public entertainment, whose owners have the option to apply either this Act or Part I of the Shops Act. The requirements also include the permitted weekly hours of employment, overtime, intervals for meals and rest, half-holidays, night and Sunday employment, and the exhibition of Notice C.



In this connexion a number of enquiries have been received from young persons and parents, and also from employers; and the necessary help and advice have been given. In addition, there is close co-operation with the Youth Employment Officer of the Ministry of Labour in dealing with cases brought to his notice.

15 visits were made in connexion with this Act.

### *Pet Animals Act, 1951.*

This Act requires shops selling pet animals to be licensed by the Local Authority. Licences are granted subject to certain provisions to ensure that the accommodation shall be suitable in respect of size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness, that suitable food and drink and care of the animals are provided, and that no animal is displayed in such position as to expose it to interference or annoyance by persons or animals, that entrance and exit from the shop are not rendered difficult in case of emergency, and that there are suitable measures for fire prevention and control.

At the request of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Corporation resolved that licences issued by the Local Authority should be endorsed that proprietors of pet shops issue leaflets with each animal sold, giving details of feeding, care, etc., of such animal.

The administration of the Act is carried out by your Public Health Inspectors, and the following shows the number of applications for licences:

Number of applications for licences	..	..	5
Number of licences granted	..	..	5

The premises licensed have been regularly inspected during the year.

### *Riding Establishments, 1939.*

This Act is designed to ensure the adequate care and well-being of horses in riding schools and similar establishments.

Arrangements have been made in Torquay for the South-Western Branch of the Royal Veterinary Association to nominate a Veterinary Surgeon to carry out this work on the terms agreed to by the Association. Mr. C. Masson, M.R.C.V.S., was appointed and carries out regular inspections of the horses; and his reports show that the condition of the horses was found to be satisfactory.



## *Swimming Baths and Pools.*

### *(a) Public Swimming Baths.*

The break-point system of chlorination, to which reference has been made in previous Reports, has been operating satisfactorily and has maintained consistently good results in the samples of water taken: this is very gratifying.

Furthermore, the striking improvement in the clarity of the water (which is sea water) has also been maintained throughout the year, even when the baths were crowded: measurements have been continued with the viewing tube and target. The distance between target and the viewing tube when the target just ceases to be visible is taken as a measure of the clarity of the water: and the minimum suggested by the report on "The Purification of the Water of Swimming Baths" issued by the Ministry of Health in 1951 is 30 feet, although with a heavy bathing load the distance may be reduced to 15 feet.

During the year there was no difficulty in obtaining quite easily a distance of 60 to 65 feet before bathers entered, with very little decline at the end of the daily sessions.

A full daily log is kept detailing the hours during which the plant is working, the number of bathers, the three readings of the pH and chlorine content, and the clarity readings.

Although these measures are doing all that is scientifically possible at present to ensure the highest standard of safety and clarity in the water, there still remains the long overdue problem of the reconstruction and modernisation of the Baths; and although the present economic restrictions in capital expenditure may cause this to be delayed still further, it is hoped that this most essential public health project will be kept in the foreground of those schemes which should be started as soon as circumstances permit.

In the Reports on Public Health and Medical Subjects No. 71—*The Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies*—2nd Impression published in January, 1957, it states in reference to swimming-bath water the following:

"Swimming-bath water is exposed not only to faecal contamination but also to contamination with organisms from the skin and nasopharynx of the bathers. It is therefore recommended that no sample from the bath should contain any coliform organisms in 100 ml. of water; and that in 75 per cent of the samples examined from that bath the 24-hour plate count at 37°C. from 1 ml. of water should not exceed 10 colonies and the remainder should not exceed 100 colonies. In any instance in which coliform organisms are present or the plate

count is above 100 colonies per ml. the bath should be re-examined, and adjustments made in the methods of its treatment. More attention is paid to the 37°C. plate count in the examination of swimming-bath water than in that of drinking water, because, as just explained, swimming-bath water is liable to be contaminated with organisms coming from the human nose, mouth and skin as well as from the bowel. Moreover, because swimming-bath water is chlorinated, it is justifiable to set an upper limit to the plate count, whereas in drinking water, which is not always chlorinated, this cannot be done. It must be pointed out, however, that the failure of an occasional sample of swimming-bath water to comply with the suggested standards does not necessarily indicate that the water is dangerous; it does, however, call for an inspection to see whether there are any unusual sources of contamination, and an examination of the processing technique to ensure that filtration is proceeding satisfactorily, and that the correct strength of free chlorine is being maintained in the bath water."

The Corporation Swimming Baths are visited weekly and samples of water are taken from both the shallow end and the deep end. A test to determine the adequacy of the chlorine content is also made at each visit.

78 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, the results being as follows:

			<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deep end	..	..	36	3	39
Shallow end	..	..	38	1	39
			—	—	—
			74	4	78
			—	—	—

All plate counts were satisfactory.

*(b) Privately owned Swimming Baths.*

There are two privately owned swimming baths in connexion with hotels in the Borough. One is a covered bath constructed before the war with no mechanical system of filtration and chlorination, although this has been recommended to the Management; the present method of chlorination is unreliable.

94 samples were taken for bacteriological examination from this swimming bath, the results being as follows:

	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deep end .. ..	43	2	45
Shallow end .. ..	43	6	49
	—	—	—
	86	8	94
	—	—	—

All the samples were submitted to the plate count and 17 samples had a count of over 100, the highest count being over 1,000.

The other is a modern open-air swimming bath in which there is a main swimming bath 75 feet by 30 feet, with depths from 3 feet to 7 feet; coupled with this is a small children's swimming pool 27 feet by 15 feet, with depths from 2 feet to 3 feet. The water is fresh main water heated to 60°F. with a continuous circulation through a sand filter and an oil-burning heater, and there is a chlorination plant. This is used during the summer months only.

48 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, the results being as follows:

	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deep end .. ..	20	4	24
Shallow end .. ..	20	4	24
	—	—	—
	40	8	48
	—	—	—

All the samples were submitted to the plate count, the highest count being 100.

#### *Eradication of Bed-Bugs.*

(1) *The number of houses infested during the year was:*

(a) Council houses .. ..	—
(b) Other houses .. ..	2

*The number of houses disinfested was:*

(a) Council houses .. ..	—
(b) Other houses .. ..	2

(2) *The methods employed for freeing infested houses from Bed-Bugs.*

Premises are disinfested by spraying with insecticide over all the surfaces or by use of an insecticidal powder. If necessary, woodwork is removed from walls, etc.



- (3) *The methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses.*

Notice is obtained before the transfer of tenants so that the District Public Health Inspectors can visit and inspect prior to removal; any belongings of the tenants found to be verminous are dealt with before the transfer is effected.

- (4) *Whether the work of disinfection is carried out by Local Authority or by a Contractor.*

All the work is carried out by the Local Authority.

### *Measures against Rodents.*

This work has been carried out on the lines laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, under your Chief Public Health Inspector, who gives the following details:

At the request of the Ministry, this section of the Report covers the period of the twelve months ending 31st March, 1959. This has been done in order to simplify the examination of claims received from local authorities.

One sewer maintenance treatment was completed, when 209 manholes were baited. 76 Complete Pre-bait Takes, 4 Partial Takes and 129 No Takes were recorded. In addition, a 10% Test Baiting of Sewers was carried out, when 227 manholes were tested. 32 Manholes were found to be infested, and of these 29 were Complete Bait Takes and 3 Partial Takes.

In surface control, 544 treatments were made to private premises and 106 treatments to business premises. The co-operation of owners and occupiers has again proved most helpful, and a few premises have been rat-proofed after successful treatments.

## RODENT CONTROL

(Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1959)

## TYPE OF PROPERTY

	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>All other (including business) premises</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Agri- cultural</i>
Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	47	14,854	2,910	17,811	42
Number of properties inspected by the L.A. during 1958 as a result of (a) notification, (b) survey or (c) otherwise e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose.	(a) 7	169	49	225	Nil
	(b) 40	512	153	705	1
	(c) Nil	990	1,294	2,284	41
Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	47	1,671	1,496	3,214	42
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by :— (a) Rats { Major Minor	2	7	Nil	9	1
	8	263	25	296	Nil
(b) Mice { Major Minor	Nil	7	5	12	Nil
	2	87	17	106	Nil
Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	12	364	47	423	1
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	26	544	78	648	2
Number of notices served under Sec.4: (1) Treatment ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(2) Structural works (i.e. Proofing)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of cases in which default action was taken by the Local Authority following the issue of a notice under Section 4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Legal Proceedings ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Number of "block" control schemes carried out ... Nil

## SECTION D

## HOUSING

The following is the table of information required :—

1. *Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year :—*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	342
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose .. ..	716
(2) (a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ..	—
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose .. ..	—
(3)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	7
(4)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .. .. .	232

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—*

Number of Defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers .. .. .	147
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—*

(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. .. .	1
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after formal notice:	
(a)	By owners .. .. .	—
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners .. ..	1
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. ..	—
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By owners .. .. .	—
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners .. ..	—



## (c) Proceedings under Sections 16 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made . . . . .	1
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders . . . . .	1
(3) Number of Undertakings not to use unfit houses accepted	0
(4) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made . . . . .	0
(5) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined . . . . .	0

## (d) Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made . . . . .	6
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit . . . . .	0

4. *Housing Act, 1957, Part IV.—Overcrowding.\**

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	—
(2) Number of families dwelling therein . . . . .	—
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein . . . . .	—
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding during the year . . . . .	7
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year . . . . .	—
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases . . . . .	—

\*During the year little overcrowding has been revealed by the day to day work and of 101 complaints only 7 cases were found to be overcrowded within the legal definition. There must, of course, be other cases which only a detailed survey would reveal, but, generally speaking, this problem does not appear to be so acute as is sometimes considered.

*New Housing.*

No further properties have been erected by the Corporation, as the post-war programme of building had been completed during the previous year; before the war there were 813 council houses, and since the war 1,356 houses and 72 flats have been built.

The number of houses built during the year by private enterprise was 142, bringing the total since the war to 1,130. A further 126 dwellings were under construction at the end of the year.

The total number of inhabited residential houses in the Borough is now 16,180.

*Housing Defects.*

The work carried out during the year under the Housing Act, 1957, was restricted to essential repairs only, and was generally the result of complaints by tenants. The number of such houses rendered fit for habitation was 147.

In previous reports reference was made to three essential factors upon which future improvement of the general housing position intimately depends: first, the treatment and cure of the creeping paralysis due to Rent Restriction; secondly, the encouragement of owners not only to maintain essential repairs, but also to improve the amenities of the property (where this is required) by the installation in gradual stages of such facilities as a larder, wash basin, bath, hot water system and the like; and thirdly, the preservation of a good relationship between landlord and tenant. And it was hoped that the attainment of these conditions would be facilitated by recent legislation. Unfortunately, the use of improvement grants has so far been limited mainly to owner-occupiers; this big problem of tenanted property has been partially solved by the introduction of the Rent Act, 1957.

*Rent Act, 1957.*

The Rent Act, 1957, came into force on July 6th, 1957, and has the general objectives of enabling rented houses and flats to be put and kept in repair, of increasing the total stock of rented accommodation, of securing a better use of existing housing accommodation, and of making a beginning on the restoration of a free market in rented housing. In certain important respects, the Act modified the powers and duties of Local Authorities under the Rent Acts and other enactments.

During the period ending 31st December, 1958, 20 Certificates of Disrepair were issued. 28 applications were received and in 7 cases undertakings were given. The remaining 1 was outstanding at the end of the year.



## SECTION E

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) *Milk Supply.*(i) *Source of Supply.*

*Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1953. Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) (Amendment) Regulations, 1953.*

As Torquay is within a specified area (made under an Order in 1953) all milk in the Borough must be pasteurised or sterilised or Tuberculin Tested.

*Tuberculin Tested Milk.*

A Producer's licence to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" may now be granted or renewed only if the herd is also registered in the Register of Attested Herds kept by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Producers' licences are now valid for three years from the date of issue.

Tuberculin Tested milk may not be retailed by can and dipper; it must be supplied to the buyer in a properly closed container (e.g. bottle, carton, churn, can). In the case of bottled milk, the cap shall bear the address of the premises at which the milk is bottled and the words "Tuberculin Tested Milk"; where other containers are used, they must be closed with a tightly fitting cover and suitably sealed and labelled.

*Pasteurised Milk.*

Pasteurisers are now required to fit containers of pasteurised milk with caps or covers which overlap the lips of the containers to provide better protection for the milk: this applies to churns and cans as well as bottles. Pasteurisers must put the milk into the containers in which it is to be delivered to the customer, whether householder, caterer or other consumer; and milk must be put into the containers at the premises where the milk is pasteurised, as soon as possible after pasteurisation.

*Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953.*

*Heat treated Milk.*

There are now three licensed Pasteurising Establishments; two are plants operating the Holder method (in 100-gallon Batch Pasteurisers) and one is a high-temperature short-time plant. Regular supervision of all these plants is maintained by your Public Health Inspectors and samples of milk are taken every fortnight from each plant. A total of 49 samples gave the following results:

	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Void</i>
Phosphatase test . . . . .	48	1	—
Methylene Blue reduction test . .	30	1	18*



The following samples were taken from milk supplied from Pasteurising plants outside the District:

	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Void</i>
Phosphatase test .. .. .	10	—	—
Methylene Blue reduction test ..	6	1	3*

\* The regulations state that on arrival at the laboratory the samples of milk shall be removed from the insulated container and kept at atmospheric shade temperature until the test is begun. If at any time the atmospheric shade temperature in the immediate vicinity of the samples, as indicated by the maximum thermometer adjusted to below 65°F. at 9 a.m. on each day of sampling has exceeded 65°F., the test shall be void.

The following licences were issued during the year:

Pasteuriser's Licence .. .. .	3
Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised" .. .. .	63
Dealer's Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised" .. .. .	3

Retailers who previously bought pasteurised milk in bulk containers and bottled it for delivery to their customers must now purchase from their suppliers pasteurised milk in the necessary containers, i.e. bottled pasteurised milk for household deliveries and a separate churn or can for each caterer, etc., sealed by the pasteuriser, containing the quantity of pasteurised milk required.

Retailers must not sell "Pasteurised Milk" by can and dipper; it must be supplied to the buyer in a properly closed container (e.g. bottle, carton, churn, can). Every container is required to be conspicuously and legibly labelled or marked with the words "Pasteurised Milk" or "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)", as the case may be.

#### *Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954.*

The following licences were issued during the year:

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested" .. .. .	63
Dealer's Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested" .. .. .	3

*Food and Drugs Act, 1955—Milk and Dairies (Channel Islands and South Devon Milk) Regulations, 1956.*

These Regulations came into force on 1st July, 1956, and are enforceable by Food and Drug Authorities. Four descriptions of milk are specified—Channel Islands, Jersey, Guernsey and South Devon—and the use of these descriptions is limited to milk which has not less than 4 per cent by weight of milk fat. The descriptions will generally need to be used with the special designations Pasteurised, Sterilised or Tuberculin Tested, as Torquay is a declared area; but as the space on bottle caps is limited, no provision has been made in the Regulations for the container of the milk to carry a declaration that the milk is produced from cows of the appropriate herd.

Following the making of these Regulations, the Milk (Great Britain) Order, 1954, has been further amended; and the new Order specifies maximum prices for Channel Islands and South Devon Milk. As these are in practice maximum retail prices, the sampling of these milks in the course of retail distribution is the most effective way of ensuring that customers receive milk of the quality appropriate to the higher prices paid.

If any sample is found to have less than 4 per cent milk fat by weight, it is necessary for the Local Authority to send particulars to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The Regulations are to be welcomed as a step towards the production of milk of good quality, rather than quantity; and it would be equally helpful and beneficial if further measures could be introduced which would encourage producers to consider quality as expressed by fat content, instead of solely the number of gallons of milk—in some of which the fat content often only just exceeds the present legal limit of 3 per cent.

*Licences.*

Licences are required for each type of specially designated milk produced or distributed. Producers must apply to the county milk regulations officers; pasteurisers and sterilisers to the food and drugs authorities; and dairymen, who buy specially designated milk, to the local authority, for the licences they require.

(ii) *Producers.*

At the end of the year there were 14 Dairy Farms within the Borough. Five of these possess Tuberculin Tested Herds, the remainder having no special designation. The non-designated farms are visited regularly by your Public Health Inspectors and occasional samples of milk taken for bacteriological examination; a total of 9 inspections was made.

(iii) *Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, Section 20.*

This section refers to the spread of infection by milk; and under it the Medical Officer of Health has power to prohibit the milk from being sold or used until it is heat-treated, if he has evidence, or reasonable grounds for suspecting that the consumption of this milk may give rise to disease in any person, or that the milk itself is infected.

No action was necessary under this section during the year.

*Dairies and Distributors.*

Fourteen premises are registered as dairies and 63 persons are registered as distributors of milk. All premises used for the storage, treatment and sale of milk are inspected regularly, and in every case comply with the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949; 137 inspections were made during the year.

(b) *Meat and Other Foods.**Abattoir.*

The arrangements at the Abattoir, now administered by the Corporation, have continued on the lines described in the previous report and have remained satisfactory.

*Licensing of Slaughterhouses.*

As the facilities at the Abattoir are meeting the requirements of the Borough, a resolution had been passed by the Corporation in December, 1954, determining that no further licences will be granted in respect of any premises not licensed on the date when the resolution took place. Advertisement of the Resolution was made and the approval of the Ministry was subsequently obtained.

*Slaughterhouses.**Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.*

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is empowered under this Act to make regulations for securing humane conditions in Slaughterhouses, and animals must be instantaneously slaughtered or instantaneously stunned and rendered unconscious until death supervenes.



*The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.*

These Regulations re-enact with certain modifications the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1954. The principal new provisions are as follows: for the slaughter of adult cattle, the provision and use of stunning pens is made compulsory; special provisions are to be taken with horned cattle and fractious animals in lairages; and animals must not be kept in fields awaiting slaughter when conditions are severe.

*Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.*

This amended certain of the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, relating to Slaughterhouses, and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is empowered to make regulations to secure their hygienic construction, layout, and equipment.

*Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.*

These Regulations made by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food deal with the hygienic construction, layout, and equipment of slaughterhouses and the practices to be observed therein. They come into force as regards new slaughterhouses on 1st January, 1959, and on a day to be appointed by the Minister as regards existing slaughterhouses. They deal with such matters as layout, accommodation, lighting and ventilation, cleanliness, equipment, slaughtering processes, hygiene of premises in general, and personal hygiene and conduct.

*Methods and Criteria of Meat Inspection.*

In connexion with Circular MF 10/54 which drew attention to a number of details under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924–1952, the arrangements made complied with the requirements concerning notice of slaughtering, non-removal of carcase prior to inspection, and meat inspection generally. Special provisions have been made in Torquay for the cold storage treatment of meat infected with *Cysticercus Bovis* in accordance with Section C of Part IV of Memorandum 3/Meat; and condemned meat is disposed of to a Contractor who has given a written undertaking that it will all be processed by heat (by a method to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries) before the products are used for fertilisers and for pig and poultry meals.

In the public interest, the special glands and certain livers required by manufacturing chemists for pharmaceutical products are extracted and made available for this purpose.

621 visits were made to the Abattoir in connexion with the inspection of meat.

(i) *Inspection of Meat.*

The following table gives the details of the inspections:

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE  
OR IN PART

	<i>Cattle, exclud- ing Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	2,252	66	139	8,207	5,565	—
Number inspected ... ..	2,252	66	139	8,207	5,565	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI: Whole carcasses condemned	1	4	2	7	5	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	942	29	3	370	206	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ... ..	41.9%	50%	3.6%	4.5%	3.8%	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY: Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	33	8	—	—	252	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis ... ..	1.15%	13.8%	—	—	4.5%	—
CYSTICERCOSIS: Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	31	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	31	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

(Total weight of meat condemned: 22,632 lbs.)

In addition to the above a further 1,500 lb. of meat was condemned during the year at butchers' shops, the primary cause being bone taint.

## WHOLE CARCASSES CONDEMNED—REASON FOR CONDEMNATION

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Generalised Tuberculosis .. ..	3	1	—	—	—
Pyaemia .. ..	1	—	1	—	—
Dropsy and Emaciation .. ..	—	1	—	7	—
Septicaemia .. ..	—	—	1	—	3
Pyelonephritis .. ..	—	1	—	—	—
Septic Metritis .. ..	—	1	—	—	—
Gangrenous Mastitis .. ..	—	1	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasms .. ..	—	—	—	—	1
Septic Peritonitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS .. ..	4	5	2	7	5

*Cysticercus bovis.*

There are still a number of carcasses found affected with *Cysticercus*—59 in 1954, 34 in 1955, 29 in 1956, 44 in 1957, and 33 in 1958. The effects of this infection is greater economically than it appears, in that it affects young prime animals; indeed, several prize-winners at the Fatstock Christmas Shows were found affected, which caused considerable concern and disappointment to the butchers, for the treatment by refrigeration at such a low temperature, less than 20°F. for three weeks, has the effect of turning good prime beef into meat often only suitable for manufacturing purposes.

There is evidence that the incidence of this infection in some countries is correlated with a low standard of hygiene in sewage collection and disposal; because the adult worm lives in the human intestine, the ova are shed with the faeces, and infection occurs when the cattle ingest the ova. In a previous report it was suggested that the post-war rise in incidence may be due to the indiscriminate camping and casual use of pasture land by a careless public who, with the increased mobility of transport, have much greater access to what were formerly remote places.

In any event, the problem is sufficiently important to justify some effort to try to trace the source of infection. Incidentally, it illustrates the tremendous importance of efficient meat inspection; for, unless carefully and thoroughly inspected, the condition in the carcase may be overlooked.



(ii) *Inspection of Other Foods.*

Food condemned included:								<i>Weight lbs.</i>
Butter, Fats and Lard	..	..	..	..				10
Cheese .. .. .	..	..	..	..				35
Coffee .. .. .	..	..	..	..				3
Confectionery, Cake	..	..	..	..				24
Fish .. .. .	..	..	..	..				204
Fruit and Vegetables	..	..	..	..				2,107
Jams and Preserves	..	..	..	..				215
Meat Pies .. .. .	..	..	..	..				9
Pickles and Sauces	..	..	..	..				40
Poultry .. .. .	..	..	..	..				206
Sausages .. .. .	..	..	..	..				174
Canned Meat .. .. .	..	..	..	..				1,762
„ Puddings .. .. .	..	..	..	..				15
„ Poultry .. .. .	..	..	..	..				62
„ Vegetables .. .. .	..	..	..	..				1,720
„ Fruit .. .. .	..	..	..	..				3,623
„ Fish .. .. .	..	..	..	..				27
„ Pastes .. .. .	..	..	..	..				7
„ Spaghetti .. .. .	..	..	..	..				6
„ Soup .. .. .	..	..	..	..				113
„ Milk .. .. .	..	..	..	..				53
„ Fruit Puddings .. .. .	..	..	..	..				17
„ Sausages .. .. .	..	..	..	..				26
TOTALS .. .. .								10,458

(Total weight condemned: 4 tons, 13 cwts., 1 qr., 14 lbs.)

(c) *Adulteration, etc.—Food and Drugs Act, 1955.*

The following is a record of the samples taken:

				FORMAL		INFORMAL	
				<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Not Genuine</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Not Genuine.</i>
Almonds—Ground	..	..	—	—	—	3	—
Apples	..	..	..	—	—	1	1
Chewing Gum	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Chicklettes	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Cod Roe Spread	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Confectionery—Sugar	..	..	—	—	—	2	—
Corned Beef	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Compound—Glycerin of Thymol —B.P.C.	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Compound—Vitamin Tablets	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Crab, Dressed	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Cream, Clotted	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Cream of Tartar	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Dripping	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Edible Oil	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Fish Cakes	..	..	..	—	—	2	—
Fish Roe Spread	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Garlic Salt	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Gelatine	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Glucose, Liquid Preparation	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Jam, Gooseberry	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Jam, Strawberry	..	..	..	—	—	1	1
Juice, Grape	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Marmalade—Grapefruit	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Marzipan	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Medicament	..	..	..	—	—	2	—
Meat Paste..	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Milk	..	..	..	8	—	77	—
Milk—Channel Island	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Milk Yoghourt	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Mixture for addition to milk shake	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Orange Drink	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Pork Pie	..	..	..	—	—	2	—
Pepper—Ground White	..	..	..	—	—	2	—
Pie—Veal and Ham	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Sausages—Beef	..	..	..	—	—	4	2
„ Pork	..	..	..	—	—	10	6
„ Frankfurter	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
„ Kosher	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Sauce—Horseradish	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Sherbert	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Sodium Bicarbonate	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Vinegar	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Whisky	..	..	..	3	—	—	—
Yeast—Dried	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
Yeast—Tablet—B.P.C.	..	..	..	—	—	1	—
TOTAL				11	—	139	10

## TABLE OF SAMPLES NOT GENUINE

## INFORMAL

<i>Register No.</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Nature of adulteration or irregularity</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
2168	Pork Sausages	12% deficient in meat, and containing undeclared preservative.	Vendor warned.
2169	Pork Sausages	Containing undeclared preservative.	Vendor warned.
2170	Pork Sausages	13% deficient in meat	Vendor warned.
2183	Apples	Contaminated with 12 parts per million lead and 8 parts per million of arsenic	Part of consignment condemned—remainder cleansed.
2185	Pork Sausages	6% deficient in fat	Vendor warned.
2186	Pork Sausages	Containing undeclared preservative.	Vendor warned.
2194	Beef Sausages	Containing undeclared preservative	Vendor warned.
2195	Pork Sausages	Containing undeclared preservative	Vendor warned.
2207	Strawberry Jam	Contained a piece of reed stem 2½ in. in length	Vendor warned.
2211	Beef Sausages	Containing undeclared preservative	Vendor warned.

In connexion with the samples of sausages it should be noted that since March, 1953, when the Meat Products No. 3 Order, 1952, was revoked, no actual meat content standard for sausages has been in force; but efforts are being made informally to keep the standard at a high level.

(d) *Food and Disease.*

*Food and Drugs Act, 1955.*

#### FOOD.

It is requested that information should be given as far as possible under the following sub-headings:



- (i) *The number, if available, of food premises in the area, by type of business.*

<i>Type of Business</i>							<i>Approx. No.</i>
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	156
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	96
Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Fish Fryers	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	106
Cake Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Cafes, Restaurants, Snack Bars, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	95
Licensed Premises (including Hotels)	..	..	..	..	..	..	109
Unlicensed Hotels and Boarding Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	577
Milk Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	..	66

- (ii) *The number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, or under Local Acts, and the number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954.*

- (a) *Food Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.*

270 ice-cream premises are registered in connexion with the following types of business:

					<i>Wrapped</i>	<i>Bulk</i>
Grocers	..	..	..	..	68	—
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	10	—
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	58	2
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	2	—
Fish Fryers	..	..	..	..	8	—
Bakers	..	..	..	..	5	2
General Stores	..	..	..	..	14	3
Cafes	..	..	..	..	16	33
Restaurants and Snack Bars	..	..	..	..	14	11
Ice Cream Kiosks	..	..	..	..	1	—
Booksellers	..	..	..	..	5	—
Dairies	..	..	..	..	9	1
Amusement Places	..	..	..	..	2	2
Caravan Camp	..	..	..	..	1	—
Garage	..	..	..	..	1	—
Factory only	..	..	..	..	—	1
Store only	..	..	..	..	—	1
					214	56

79 Preserved Food premises are registered in connexion with the following types of business:

Butchers..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Cooked Meat Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Preserved Fruit Factory	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

(b) *Premises and Persons registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949–1954.*

Dairies and Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	14
Distributors only	..	..	..	..	..	52

(iii) *The number of inspections of registered food premises with informative comment as necessary:*

Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	90
Cooked Meat Premises	..	..	..	..	..	73
Other Preserved Food (Butchers)	..	..	..	..	..	386
Dairies and Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	137

Other food premises to which registration does not at present apply, were also inspected:—

Fish Quay	..	..	..	..	..	..	84
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	323
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	300
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	..	101
Fish Fryers	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	77
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Cafes, Restaurants and Snack Bars	..	..	..	..	..	..	362
Hotels and Boarding Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	143
Meat Depots	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Houses visited on food complaints	..	..	..	..	..	..	16

(iv) *Any new educational activity (e.g. inauguration of clean food guilds or of lectures on food hygiene) and the progress of established educational activity.*

The measures to which reference has been made in previous reports have been continued, including special talks with films to catering organisations; and the Hotels' Association has given active assistance in these arrangements. But there seems little doubt that the most effective way of improving and maintaining standards of hygiene is the regular inspection by your Public Health Inspectors, in practical advice and informal discussion with both Management and Staff.

While the new Regulations will assist in ensuring that the necessary facilities are installed in places where food is prepared, it still remains true that ultimately safety depends on the carefulness of the individual food-handler to make use of these facilities, and it will take much time and patient unspectacular work year after year to inculcate clean habits in every person connected with the food trade. Even more difficult is the struggle to make sure that the highest standards are maintained during the busy summer season, when even the best intentions tend unconsciously to lapse and the frailty of human nature makes it easy to err.

The necessary measures and technique are not difficult to learn; indeed, they are quite simple. But there is such a tendency nowadays, with ever-increasing meetings, conferences, talks and discussions, to take it for granted that as long as these are held, the problem is solved; whereas they avail very little, unless they are followed by the much greater achievement of each individual worker actually doing his duty properly and well at all times.

(v) *The method and disposal of condemned food.*

Condemned meat from the Abattoir is disposed of to a Contractor who has given a written undertaking that it will all be processed by heat (by a method to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries) before the products are used for fertilisers and for poultry meal.

Meat from shops is dealt with in the same way.

Other foods condemned are destroyed at the Refuse Tip, the condemnation notes being checked with the articles received. In exceptional circumstances, articles such as potatoes, when suitable, are sent for pig food after processing.

(vi) *Where special examination of a stock or of a consignment of food has been necessary, the total quantity as well as the quantity condemned.*

A consignment of apples, imported from abroad, was found to be contaminated from a lead arsenate insecticide. It was found necessary to condemn a proportion of the apples as analyses showed that their skins contained a concentration of 12 p.p.m. of lead and 8 p.p.m. of arsenic. The remainder of the apples was released to the trade after thorough cleansing.



(vii) *Ice Cream.*

*The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947–1952.*

These allow a high temperature (175°F.) short time (15 seconds) heat treatment—as contrasted with a longer time at a lower temperature (either 160°F. for 10 minutes or 150°F. for 30 minutes). This is somewhat similar to the provisions for pasteurising milk, but ice cream is really an emulsion of varying viscosity and difficult to propel through metal tubes. The apparatus has therefore to be thermostatically controlled, and must be fitted with a positive displacement pump which shall serve to maintain the flow of the mixture during its retention at the prescribed temperature at an even rate, and also with a device which shall automatically divert the flow of any mixture which has not been raised to the prescribed temperature.

There is at present no installation of this type in the Borough.

The supervision and registration of premises where ice cream is manufactured or sold has been carefully maintained: for ice cream is an ideal medium for bacterial multiplication. The need cannot be over-emphasized for adequate sterilisation of all apparatus (and unless utensils are properly washed and cleaned first they cannot be sterilised adequately), for the development of a “no-touch technique” (which means that hands should not be introduced into an ice-cream mix at any stage), and for the realisation of the greater danger if the hot-mix is not rapidly cooled with special apparatus (for any dangerous organisms introduced after heating have ideal conditions for multiplying during an inefficient cooling process).

There are now registered in the Borough 270 premises for the preparation, storage or sale of ice cream, and in 214 of these only the pre-packed article is sold. The number of manufacturers has increased to two during the year. One (Torquay Corporation) using a Hot Mix, the other using a Cold Mix. And there is only one place registered solely as a store for ice cream.

The bacteriological examination of samples has been continued by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Exeter, and, following the original work carried out by the Medical Research Council, a simple modified methylene blue test has been suggested for the grading of ice cream.

<i>Provisional Grade</i>	<i>Time taken to reduce methylene blue</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
1	4½ hours or more	Satisfactory
2	2½–4 hours	Fair
3	½–2 hours	Unsatisfactory
4	0	Very bad

The following table gives the results of the samples taken during the year:

	GRADES				Total
	1	2	3	4	
Local Manufacturers					
Hot Mix .. .. .	5	1	—	—	6
Cold Mix .. .. .	2	1	—	—	3
Outside Manufacturers ..	14	2	5	1	22
TOTAL ..	21	4	5	1	31

(viii) *The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-1956.*

The Regulations lay down requirements for (a) cleanliness of food premises and of apparatus and equipment; (b) the hygienic handling of food; (c) the cleanliness of persons engaged in handling food, and of their clothing, and the action to be taken where they suffer from, or are carriers of, certain infections; (d) the construction of food premises, their repair and maintenance, and the facilities to be provided; and (e) the temperature at which certain foods, particularly liable to transmit disease, are to be kept in food premises.

Your inspectors have continued to give close attention to the hygiene of food premises, and further improvements have been effected: in some cases this amounts to minor alterations, in others considerable reconstruction was involved.

(e) *Food Poisoning Outbreaks.*

Details of any outbreaks are requested in the following tabular form:

<i>Total Number of Outbreaks</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>	<i>Number of Deaths</i>	<i>Organisms or Other Agents responsible with Number of Outbreaks of Each</i>	<i>Foods involved with Number of Outbreaks of Each</i>
—	—	—	—	—

## SECTION F

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,  
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

1. *Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).*

The incidence of infectious disease for the year is given in the subjoined tables, which also include the number of cases admitted to hospital and the number of deaths:

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	15	6	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	75	9	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	17	3	—
Typhoid ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	1	—
Pneumonia ... ..	5	1	22
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	1	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis:—			
Paralytic ... ..	—	—	—
Non-paralytic ... ..	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad) ... ..	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (Post Infectious)	—	—	—
TOTALS ... ..	114	21	22



## INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES— AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION

	Scarlet fever		Whoop- ing cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles (ex- cluding rubella)		Diph- theria		Dysen- tery		Menin- gococcal infection	
					Non- Paralytic paralytic											
	Numbers originally notified	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
TOTAL (all ages)	5	10	6	11	—	—	—	—	37	38	—	—	—	—	—	—
Final numbers after correction																
Under 1 year ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year .. ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 years .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 years .. ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 years .. ..	—	2	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-9 years .. ..	2	3	2	6	—	—	—	—	22	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-14 years ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24 years ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 and over ..	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL (all ages)	5	10	6	11	—	—	—	—	37	38	—	—	—	—	—	—

Numbers originally notified	Ac. pneumonia		Smallpox		Acute encephalitis				Enteric or Typhoid fever		Para-typhoid fevers		Ery-sipelas		Food poison-ing	
	M	F	M	F	Infective		Post-infectious		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
					M	F	M	F								
TOTAL (all ages)	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Final numbers after correction																
Under 5 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-14 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-44 years ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-64 years ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL (all ages)	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

<i>Numbers originally notified</i> TOTAL (all ages)	<i>Tuberculosis</i>						<i>Other notifiable diseases</i>			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Meninges &amp; C.N.S.</i>		<i>Other</i>		<i>Original</i>		<i>Final</i>	
	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
	16	12	—	—	—	—				
<i>Final numbers after correction</i>										
Under 5 years ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
5-14 years ..	—	2	—	—	—	—				
15-24 years ..	4	4	—	—	—	—				
25-44 years ..	3	2	—	—	—	—				
45-64 years ..	5	2	—	—	—	—				
65 and over ..	3	1	—	—	—	—				
Age unknown ..	—	—	—	—	—	—				
TOTAL (all ages)	16	12	—	—	—	—				

<i>Puerperal pyrexia</i>			
—	1	—	1
<i>Ophthalmia neonatorum</i>			
1	—	1	—

*Diphtheria.*

It is gratifying to record that 1958 was the twelfth successive year during which no case of diphtheria was notified.

*Influenza.*

There was no widespread epidemic of influenza during 1958.

*Pneumonia.*

The sharp drop in the number of notified cases of pneumonia from 25 to 5 indicates a return to the normal level. In 1957 there occurred the epidemic of Asian Influenza which brought about an increase in the incidence of pneumonia.

*Acute Poliomyelitis.*

There were no cases of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis during 1958.

*Measles.*

Measles was not epidemic in 1958 and there were only 75 notifications.

*Scarlet Fever.*

The incidence was again very low, only 15 cases being notified, and the type remained mild clinically.

*2. Tuberculosis.*

*Particulars of any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the Milk Trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).*

No action was required.

*New cases and mortality during 1958.*

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1958 are given in the following table:

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	Male	F'male	Male	F'male	Male	F'male	Male	F'male
Under 5 years ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 14 years ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 24 years ...	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 44 years ...	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
45 to 64 years ...	5	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over ...	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	16	12	—	—	4	—	—	—



## BOROUGH OF TORQUAY

### PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, 1958

The following report is the record of Port Health Administration for the year 1958, detailed in form and sequence in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health contained in Form Port 20 sent with Circular 33/52.

As a result of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952, the form and scope of the report were revised, and the full details are only required every five years; the last quinquennial report was for 1955, and the intermediate years will be covered by a shorter report. In the year under review certain sections, marked with an asterisk, are therefore omitted as there has been no change to record; but the sectional headings are retained to ensure continuity.

### SECTION 1—STAFF

**TABLE A**

<i>Name of Officer</i>	<i>Nature of Appointment</i>	<i>Date of Appointment</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Any other appointments held</i>
D. K. MacTAGGART	Medical Officer of Health	1957	M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (LOND.)	Assistant County Medical Officer
G. J. LOVELESS	Chief Public Health Inspector and Port Health Inspector	1946	C.R.S.I., CERT. INSP. MEAT AND FOOD R.S.I.	
		Retired January, 1958		
D. PARTRIDGE	Chief Public Health Inspector and Port Health Inspector	January, 1958	C.S.I.J.B., CERT. INSP. MEAT AND FOOD R.S.I.	
A. THOMPSON	District Public Health Inspector and Assistant Port Health Inspector	1925	C.R.S.I.	
		Retired 1958		
F. HOLLOWAY	District Public Health Inspector and Assistant Port Health Inspector	October, 1958	C.S.I.J.B., CERT. INSP. MEAT AND FOOD R.S.I.	

CLERKS: S. E. R. AUTHERS, Chief Clerk.  
E. C. DOBLE.

(The work in connexion with Port Health Administration is carried out by the above members of the Public Health Staff, in the course of the general Public Health Administration of the Borough.)

*Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health :*

St. Marychurch Town Hall, Torquay

Tel. No.: Torquay 88204 (Office)  
83154 (Home)

## SECTION II—AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B

<i>Ships from</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Tonnage</i>	<i>Number Inspected</i>		<i>Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board</i>
			<i>By the Medical Officer of Health</i>	<i>By the Public Health Inspector</i>	
Foreign Ports	1	222	1	1	—
Coastwise ...	45	20,440	5	14	—
TOTAL ...	46	20,662	6	15	—

In addition, local fishing vessels made 1,219 visits (total tonnage 5,442) to the fish quay and frequent inspections of these have been made. 479 tons of fish were landed during the year.

## SECTION III—CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

PASSENGER TRAFFIC	<div> <div>Number of passengers INWARDS</div> <div>Number of passengers OUTWARDS</div> </div>	<div>This is not a port approved under the Aliens Order, 1920</div>
CARGO TRAFFIC ..	<div> <div>Principal IMPORTS.</div> <div>Principal EXPORTS.</div> </div>	<div> <div>Bog Ore (1 Cargo).</div> <div>Coal (3 Cargoes).</div> <div>None.</div> </div>

PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrived in 1958:

London, Rotterdam, Cherbourg, Le Havre, Dieppe,  
Guernsey and general coastwise.

FOREIGN PORTS were: Streur Jutland.

The wharves at Torquay are approved by the Customs for the import of timber (incl. Plywood, Hardboard and Wallboard) Slates and Bog Ore, and for the export of Bricks and Roofing Tiles.

## \*SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There is no inland barge traffic in the area.

## \*SECTION V—WATER SUPPLY

NO CHANGE



## SECTION VI—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952

(1) *List of infected areas. (Regulation 6)*

*Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure in supplying it to those persons.*

The list of infected ports and areas supplied from the Ministry of Health each week is noted at the Public Health Department and is then taken by the District Public Health Inspector to the Customs Officer who retains it for the week; when each new list is taken, the list for the previous week is returned to the Health Department.

(2) *Radio Messages.*

(a) *Arrangement for sending permission by radio, for ships to enter the District. (Regulation 13.)*

Arrangements are made with the Post Office for the transmission of Wireless messages, if required.

(b) *Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships, and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2) ).*

These messages are received through the Post Office, and would in the first instance be to the Local Shipping Agents, thence to the Customs Officer and subsequently to the Medical Officer of Health.

(3) *Notification otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b) ). Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.*

Messages are received or sent by the Customs Officer communicating with the Coast Guard Station at Berry Head for signals either of flags or flash lamps in morse; Berry Head commands the whole Bay for shipping.

Detailed notices on the Maritime Declaration of Health instruct Masters of vessels to fly the International signals as given in the Regulations. Any notifications to the Customs Officer are communicated at once to the Medical Officer of Health.

(4) *Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30)—Situation of Stations and any other standing directions issued under these Regulations.*

The quarantine mooring buoy which was situated 1,000 yards South-West out to sea from the end of Haldon Pier, painted yellow and black, and lighted at night, was washed away in a storm, and it was decided that this should not be replaced, but a Quarantine Anchorage established in its place.

This anchorage has been established in a position Latitude 50 Degr. 27' 00" North and Longitude 03 Degr. 31' 30" West in 5½ fms. water at M.L.W.O.S., extending in a North South-



East and West direction (TRUE), each way 750 feet forming the diagonals of a square having sides each 1,000 feet.

This position is some 3 cables, 162 Degs. (TRUE) from the original Quarantine Buoy position, and 4 cables from Torquay Harbour in what is marked as TORQUAY ROADS on Admiralty Chart No. 26.

This anchorage is easily verified by Mariners by cross bearings on some seven prominent landmarks all of which are within  $3\frac{1}{2}$  nautical miles and include four which are lighted.

(5) *Arrangements for:*

(a) *Hospital accommodation for infectious cases (other than Smallpox—See Section VII).*

Cases of infectious disease, other than Smallpox, are admitted to the Torquay Isolation Hospital, which is the Hospital for the Torquay District Management Committee area.

(b) *Surveillance and follow-up of contacts.*

Surveillance and following-up of contacts are undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspectors.

(c) *Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other Articles.*

There is a Cleansing Station for persons at St. Marychurch Town Hall. Disinfection of any Quarters aboard ship is dealt with by the Public Health Inspectors, and the disinfection of clothing and other articles takes place at the Isolation Hospital, where there is a modern Thresh Disinfector, together with facilities for articles which cannot be put through steam under pressure.

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## SECTION VII—SMALLPOX

- (1) *Name of Isolation Hospital to which Smallpox cases are sent from the District.*

Cases are sent to Upton Pyne Smallpox Hospital near Exeter, and the Medical Officer in charge is the Resident Physician of Whipton Isolation Hospital, Exeter, Dr. R. P. Boyd.

- (2) *Arrangement for transport of such cases to that Hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.*

The ambulance is arranged by telephone message to the Resident Physician at Whipton Isolation Hospital, Exeter, who states that the vehicle is supplied by the Exeter City Health Department and is staffed by the Hospital, and that all members of the crew are fully vaccinated.

- (3) *Names of Smallpox Consultants available.*

The Consultants available are :—

Dr. J. Macrae, Ham Green Isolation Hospital, Bristol.

Dr. W. A. Lister, 7, The Crescent, Plymouth.

Dr. D. F. Johnstone, The Isolation Hospital, Plymouth.

- (4) *Facilities for Laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox.*

Specimens for Laboratory diagnosis are sent to the Central Public Health Laboratory (Virus Reference), Colindale, Hendon, N.W.4.

## \*SECTION VIII—VENEREAL DISEASE

NO CHANGE

## SECTION IX—CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

TABLE D

Category	Disease	No. of cases during the year		No. of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports ...	—	—	—	—
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	—	—	—	—
Cases landed from other ports ... ..	—	—	—	—

A short account should be given of the measures taken on the arrival by ship of (a) any case of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever typhus, or relapsing fever included in Table D; (b) any suspected, case of any such disease.

N I L .

## SECTION X—OBSERVATIONS OF THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

N I L .

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## SECTION XI—MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

N I L .

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## SECTION XII—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

### (1) *Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.*

Enquiries are made by the Public Health Inspector from all Masters of vessels using the Port concerning the presence of rats, and, if present, of signs of unusual mortality among the rats. Owing to the small size of the vessels, and of the nature of the cargo carried, it is uncommon to find any evidence of rat infestation.

Systematic inspections are made of the ships and quays, with special reference to the presence of rat runs, excreta, damage to foodstuffs, etc.

### (2) *Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.*

The examinations, if required at any time, will be made through the Public Health Laboratory Service at Exeter.

None has so far been required.

### (3) *Arrangements in the District for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.*

Any ship requiring deratting is referred to Plymouth for the necessary measures, and the next port of call of the vessel is notified.

### (4) *Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.*

This has not been required owing to the limited nature of shipping entering the port.

## TABLE E

*Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.*

N I L .



**TABLE F**

*Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.*

This table does not apply as Torquay is not an approved port under Article 52 of the International Sanitary Regulations.

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**SECTION XIII—INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES**

**TABLE G****Inspections and Notices**

<i>Nature and Number of Inspections</i>		<i>Notices served</i>		<i>Result of serving notices</i>
		<i>Statutory Notices</i>	<i>Other Notices</i>	
General ...	15	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	15	—	—	—

**\*SECTION XIV—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH)  
REGULATIONS, 1934 and 1948**

NO CHANGE

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**\*SECTION XV—MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS**  
(Applicable only to ports approved for the landing of aliens)

NO CHANGE

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**\*SECTION XVI—MISCELLANEOUS**

NO CHANGE









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